

### Ameren Utilities' View on Implementing the Governor's Plan

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# Background On Ameren Corporation

- Ameren Corporation is a registered holding company that owns and operates four utilities, serving in Missouri and Illinois: AmerenCIPS, AmerenCILCO, AmerenIP and AmerenUE
- 1.2 million electric customers served in Illinois
- Ameren Corporation also has unregulated generation and marketing businesses



#### Governor's RPS Plan

- Applicable to Utilities and ARES
- 2% of energy sales in 2006, increasing 1% annually until, in 2012, 8% is generated by renewable resources
- 75% of renewables to come from wind
- For Ameren Utilities' Illinois control area, the Plan would require wind renewables of 225 MW in 2006, growing to 950 MW in 2012
- Assures full cost recovery



### Key ICC Considerations for Implementing Governor's Plan

- Load uncertainty of Utility and ARES portfolios
  - Types of load uncertainty includes switching risk, weather variability, economic
  - Wind developers need long term contracts
- ICC needs to ensure resources are available in order to meet 2% target for 2006, and RPS in future years
  - Developers and equipment vendors are better able than Utilities to assess resource availability



### Key ICC Considerations for Implementing Governor's Plan (Cont'd)

- ICC must consider 2006 RPS requirements on existing supply contracts serving Utilities through 2006
- ICC should consider usefulness of renewable targets using Megawatt hours as a measure, and should also consider capacity measures/targets and other metrics
- Limiting resources to only those produced in Illinois limits use of potentially less expensive resources produced in other states
- Need to consider Renewable Energy Credits as compliance measure, and promote trading and marketing environment
- Several operational matters to be considered



#### Ameren Utilities' RPS Method

- Distribution Utilities become Responsible for All Procurement of Renewables in Illinois
  - Allows for longer term contracts with Renewable Energy Developers (Developers), which may minimize overall RPS cost to customers
    - Buying in bulk may result in lower cost
    - Should aid Developers in obtaining lower financing costs
  - Utility would base "RPS Requirements" on Delivery Services (DS) load
    - Reduces risk of load uncertainty since all customers will take DS
    - Easier to monitor compliance with RPS rules
  - All RPS costs recovered in charges applicable to all DS customers



## How Would Utilities Manage RPS Under the Alternative Method?

We have not worked through all the specifics, but have identified possible Scenarios

- Scenario 1: Utility enters into bilateral contracts with Developers to provide physical energy
  - Utility would sell into energy market
- Scenario 2: Utility contracts for RPS on basis of "difference" between market price and RPS supply cost
  - Contract is more financial than physical



#### Ameren Utilities' RPS Method

- The advantages of Scenarios 1 and 2
  - The ICC, Utility and other interested stakeholders can monitor RPS compliance
  - The purchase of RPS energy does not alter the Post-06 declining clock auction process
  - The Developers have certainty of long-term contracts
  - State energy policy is implemented efficiently
  - ARES are not involved in meeting an RPS



#### How Scenario 1 Works

#### Utility enters standard contracts with Developers

- ICC preapproves process
- Utility pays fixed contract price to Developers for all Megawatt hours delivered over life of contract
- Developers provide physical energy to utility
  - Utility sells renewables energy into energy market
- Utility computes for each month, the difference between: 1) Payments to Developers; and 2) Proceeds from selling such energy into market
  - Difference is either a <u>credit or a charge</u> on DS customer bills



#### How Scenario 2 Works

Utility enters into financial contract for RPS energy at a specified renewable price

- ICC preapproves process
- Developer sells into the energy market
- Developer and Utility set daily on a "formula" that will compute the difference between:
  - 1) the Fixed RPS unit price; and
  - 2) the revenue received by Developer from sale into energy market
    - During periods of high prices in energy market, Utility could receive a credit (when the market price exceeds the renewables price)
    - Difference is either a credit or a charge on DS customer bills



#### Which Scenario Is Best?

Ameren Utilities prefer the simplicity of Scenario 2

- Scenarios 1 and 2 may produce similar financial costs, however;
  - Scenario 2 eliminates the extra step of the Utility taking physical ownership of the energy
    - Could impose additional costs on transaction
  - The Ameren Utilities do not have a trading shop to manage the deliveries and resale into the energy market



### Benefits of Ameren Utilities' RPS Method

#### Regulatory Oversight Enhanced

- RPS compliance monitoring is simplified under alternate method
- Maintains regulatory oversight of renewable energy with those entities-the Utilities- that the ICC regulates

#### Competitive Market Development

- Allows ARES to freely compete for customers and load using all available energy resources
- All customers participate in "renewables" equally
- The alternative method does not impact bidding or supply strategies of auction suppliers



# Benefits of Ameren Utilities' RPS Method (cont'd)

- Developer and Environmentalist Perspective
  - Should result in more certainty for renewables project development
    - Utility being responsible for all RPS contracting provides funding certainty, increasing likelihood of favorable financing
  - Renewable energy will reduce reliance on traditional generation in region
- Customer Perspective
  - Equitable allocation of cost responsibility



# Benefits of Ameren Utilities' RPS Method (cont'd)

- Combining RPS with the Post-06 Auction Process is Avoided
  - Increments of a % of each traunche may be too small for a supplier to economically procure
  - Each supplier's contract would expire each 1 to 3 years, limiting opportunity for suppliers to enter into RPS contract terms longer than 3 years
  - Prices resulting from auction process may result in higher cost to Utility customers if required to include renewable energy due to wind availability
  - Difficult to monitor RPS compliance across dozens of tranches and suppliers



#### **Consumer Protections**

- Customers will only pay for renewable energy produced
- RPS energy should be procured in a competitive process pre-approved by the ICC
- RPS cost recovery in DS rates will be subject to review by ICC to be certain that RPS costs are accurately recovered in rates
  - DS rates will include a reconciliation formula to synchronize DS charges with RPS costs



### **Energy Efficiency Standards**

- There should be multiple options for each revenue class
- Process and impact evaluation should be independent and focused on process improvement
- Collaborative teams consisting of all stakeholders should have input into program development
- Competitively procure programs



# Energy Efficiency Standards (cont'd)

- Focus on implementing programs that are effective
- Recognize that demand response differs from energy efficiency; consider different metrics, different evaluation parameters for demand response
- Assurance of full cost recovery